

# Military Circle/Military Highway UDA

## Public Meeting February 29, 2016

### 5:30 PM – Public Meeting

Renaissance Planning and City Planning staff hosted an open house style public meeting to present the draft vision maps, provide an update on the project context and work completed to-date, and request feedback before a final vision and implementation plan are completed. 85 people signed in to the event, with ~10 from outside the City. Attendees were able to review poster boards with maps and project context for the first 30 minute, followed by a 45 minute presentation, and additional open-house time when staff and consultants recorded feedback from participants as they moved about various station areas. The feedback received included:

### Overall Vision

- Light rail must go to the airport
- Protect single-family neighborhoods
- Label maps with more roads so we know what we are looking at
- Worried about work at Northampton intersection and taking more property for light rail
- Make sure enough green space
- Like that it optimizes links and creates more opportunity with 3 stations
- Connect LRT with airport
- Potential to connect LRT with Virginia Beach & Chesapeake
- Need gateway coming from Virginia Beach (south of Sentara Leigh)
- Branding is going in the wrong direction; it sounds like a shopping center. Appreciate the region/neighborhoods/history; kill the mermaid.
- How will we get buy-in from current property owners & tenants? What's their incentive?
- How do we phase this? What are our short-term steps/goals?
- Will this design make travel slower? How will we improve efficiency? Is there a more direct route for LRT than this?

### Military Circle Area

- Add more green space
- Use Peninsula Town Center as Inspiration
- Tie together different modes of transportation (Amtrak, bus train, personal vehicles)
- Bring TCC & higher-ed to Military Circle (e.g. ODM & NSU satellite campuses)
- Free parking like VB Town Center; encourage people who choose to drive
- Minimize congestion; keep traffic moving
- Honor our history; reference Norfolk's past in branding
- Nice grocery store with urban feel, character, architectural integrity needed
- Why are we investing \$18M in JC Penny when it's going to be/needs to be demolished?
- How will light rail affect this area (Glenrock)?

### Kempsville Road Area

- Include bike trail on bridge over I-64
- Like that it links the medical centers and links opportunity for the aging including senior housing, independent and assisted living, and skilled support
- Alignment here and with hospital are great

### JANAF Area

- Ask colleges and high schools what they would like to see for this area
- Meet with respective business associations and Chamber of Commerce
- Housing price: what is the target income? Target middle-income
- New construction should reflect the character of Norfolk
- Places for youth entertainment needed (e.g. bowling, ice arena, church groups, etc.)
- Transit is a good thing; reduces congestion
- Need safety & security
- Need to start now to plan for this long-term vision; tell City Council that there is popular support for this transformation
- Label maps to make it easier for non-map folks to read